

in the output initiation instruction monitor step; and

a printing data output step for outputting to the printer through the two-way communication the printing data generated in the printing data generation step.

22. The status information printing method according to Claim 21, characterized in that the printing data generated in the printing data generation step is dot image data.

23. The status information printing method according to Claims 21 or 22, characterized by:

it constituting part of the status information data in the printer whether the output initiation instruction exists or not; and

the output initiation instruction monitor step monitoring whether the output initiation instruction is contained in the status information data acquired in the status information acquisition step on the host side.

24. The status information printing method according to Claims 21 or 22, characterized by:

the output initiation instruction being a trigger transmitted from the printer through the two-way communication; and

the output initiation instruction monitor step judging whether the trigger is received.

25. The status information printing method according to any of Claims 21 - 24, characterized by:

the status information acquisition step analyzing the status of the printer based on the acquired status information data; and

the status information acquisition step warning a user if the printer can perform no printing.

26. The status information printing method according to any of Claims 21 - 25, characterized by the status information acquisition step acquiring the communication mode as the status information data when two-way communication is held with the printer.

27. The status information printing method according to any of Claims 21 - 26, characterized by the printing data generation step generating from a default file the form of the printing images to be printed by the printer, then generating the character string image corresponding to the status based on the status information data, and generating the printing image by superposing them together.

28. A status information printing system consisting of a host computer and a printer that are connected for two-way communication via a predetermined data transfer line, the system being characterized by:

the printer being able to output status information data through the two-way communication to the host computer in accordance with a status information output initiation instruction, and perform predetermined printing based on printing data outputted by the host computer; and

the host computer acquiring the status information data outputted from the printer through the two-way communication, generating predetermined printing data based on the status information data, and outputting the printing data to the printer.